

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Kurt S. Crytzer Commander, Joint Task Force North

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Kurt S. Crytzer previously served as the deputy commanding general of Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT). In that position, he also served as the commander of Special Operations Joint Task Force-Iraq (SOJTF-I) in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, where he was responsible for the special operations effort to counter ISIL, in support of U.S., allied and partner nation objectives.

The general received his commission as an infantry officer in 1986 through the ROTC program. Following an assignment with 1st Armored Division in Germany, he was selected as a special forces officer and has spent the bulk of his career in that capacity. He previously deployed in staff and command positions in support of Operations Provide Comfort, Provide Comfort II, Provide Promise, Deny Flight, Enduring Freedom, Autumn Return, Iraqi Freedom, Observant Compass and Inherent Resolve. He also has extensive experience in Africa, having conducted numerous missions throughout the continent.

The general has served as an infantry platoon leader and executive officer. Within the U.S. Special Operations Community, he has served as Special Forces SCUBA Detachment commander, company commander, battalion commander, Joint Special Operations Task Force commander, Counter Lord's Resistance Army Control Element (ACCE) commander and Special Operations Joint Task Force commander. Additional assignments include Special Forces Battalion S-3, Joint Operations Center chief, Balkans desk officer and current operations chief with Special Operations Command Europe, director of operations (J3) with Special Operations Command Africa, and as a faculty member at the U.S. Army War College before his previous assignment with SOCCENT.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Science Degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He and his wife, Simone, have two children.